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7 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
8 EASTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON

9 NATIONAL SHOOTING SPORTS
10 FOUNDATION, INC.,

11 Plaintiffs,

12 v.

13 ROBERT W. FERGUSON,
14 ATTORNEY GENERAL OF THE
15 STATE OF WASHINGTON,

16 Defendant.

No. 2:23-cv-00113-MKD

DECLARATION OF RENEE
HOPKINS IN SUPPORT OF
ALLIANCE FOR GUN
RESPONSIBILITY'S
MOTION TO INTERVENE

NOTED ON MOTION

CALENDAR:

May 30, 2023

Without Oral Argument

17 1. I am over the age of 18, am competent to testify, and offer this
18 declaration based on my personal knowledge.

19 2. I am the Chief Executive Officer of the Alliance for Gun
20 Responsibility ("Alliance"). The Alliance is a nonprofit organization based in
21 Seattle, Washington, that is dedicated to ending gun violence and promoting a
22 culture of gun ownership that balances rights with responsibilities. The Alliance
24 collaborates with experts, civil leaders, and citizens at the local and national level
25

1 to identify and advocate for evidence-based solutions to the crisis of gun violence.
2 The Alliance then promotes those solutions at the local, regional, and state levels.

3 3. The Alliance has successfully led statewide coalitions to pass several
4 landmark ballot measures to improve Washington's firearm laws. Those measures
5 include Initiative Measure 594, which required background checks for all gun
6 sales, closing a loophole that had allowed sales by "private sellers" at gun shows,
7 on the internet, and in other situations without background checks. They also
8 include Initiative Measure 1491, which allowed courts to issue Extreme Risk
9 Protections Orders (ERPOs) at the request of law-enforcement officers, family
10 members, and others to keep firearms out of the hands of someone deemed a
11 danger to themselves or others. And in 2018, the Alliance successfully led the
12 campaign – through a political committee we established, Safe Schools Safe
13 Communities – for Initiative Measure 1639, which established requirements for
14 firearm safety training, adopted a 10-day waiting period to purchase a semi-
15 automatic assault rifle, and raised the age for purchase of semi-automatic rifles
16 from 18 to 21.

17 4. The Alliance successfully intervened to defend the legality of both I-
18 594 and I-1639.

19 5. The Alliance has also worked with the Washington legislature to pass
20 common-sense firearm laws. For example the Alliance spent over six years
21 working to pass what became Engrossed Senate Bill 5078 ("ESSB 5078"), a law
22 regulating large-capacity magazines that was signed into law on March 23, 2022
24 and went into effect on July 1, 2022. The Alliance has intervened in two lawsuits
25 challenging the legality of ESSB 5078. That same session, the Alliance

1 successfully advocated for five other vital gun violence prevention bills, including
2 HB 1630 (which prohibited open carry of firearms at public meetings of law
3 government entities), and HB 1705 (which restricted ghost guns – unserialized and
4 untraceable firearms).

5 6. During the most recent session, the Alliance worked with the
6 legislature to pass Substitute House Bill 1240 (“SHB 1240”), a law regulating
7 assault weapons. SHB 1240 was signed into law on April 25, 2023, marking the
8 culmination of over seven years of work by the Alliance to pass this
9 straightforward and necessary firearm law. The Alliance currently has motions to
10 intervene pending in three different litigation matters challenging the legality of
11 SHB 1240.

12 7. The Alliance also has spent more than five years working on firearm
13 industry accountability measures. Most recently, the Alliance worked to enact
14 restrictions on firearm industry members who divert firearms to individuals who
15 pose a risk to themselves or others. These restrictions were ultimately contained in
16 Substitute Senate Bill 5078 (“SB 5078”). The Alliance actively assisted in policy
17 research and development, assisted in drafting proposed bill language, and
18 recruited experts to provide analysis of and legislative testimony on the diversion
19 of firearms from the legal market. Furthermore, the Alliance was the primary
20 organizer of public support for the passage of SB 5078, developing fact-sheets,
21 policy analysis, and other advocacy content for its website, email lists, social
22 media, and other forums for public engagement. Among other efforts, the Alliance
24 coordinated thousands of advocates in support of the bill and tens of thousands of
25 communications made directly to legislators. Alliance supporters were a major

1 presence at the state capitol during the legislative session (easily recognizable in
2 our orange t-shirts). The Alliance also organized testimony in support of SB 5078
3 from law enforcement, survivors, advocates, and policy experts. Alliance board
4 members also testified in support of the bill.

5 8. After this considerable investment and hard work, the Washington
6 Legislature passed SB 5078, and on April 25, 2023, Governor Jay Inslee signed the
7 bill into law. I and other members of the Alliance were in attendance at the signing
8 ceremony.

9
10 I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

11 Executed on this 22nd day of May, 2023 at Seattle, WA.


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14 _____
15 Renée Hopkins, CEO
16 Alliance for Gun Responsibility
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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

On the 24th day of May, 2023, I caused to be served, via ECF electronic service, a true copy of the foregoing Declaration in Support of Motion to Intervene upon all counsel registered for e-service.

DATED this 24th day of May, 2023.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Erica J. Knerr", is written over a horizontal line.

Erica Knerr